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birthplace of Fenimore Cooper and the homes of "Don't Give up the Ship" Lawrence and General Grant. It is said that William Penn, as he came up the Delaware, fastened his boat to an old buttonwood tree still standing on the river bank.

It is in this old town of history and tradition and in the churchyard of beauty and dignity that Mrs. Robb awaits the Resurrection morning.

E. S. W.

#### A MEMORIAL TO FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE

DEAR EDITOR: The nurses of Great Britain are considering carefully the matter of a suitable memorial to Florence Nightingale. It goes without saying that others than nurses are similarly engaged, and that there ultimately may be, not one memorial, but many, erected throughout the Kingdom, in commemoration of her and her immortal work.

At the same time, there will probably be one scheme, which, because of its peculiar significance, may be accepted as embodying in the most fitting way that sentiment toward her which is not merely national but universal in its dimensions.

The suggestions made by the different committees so far have been apparently of two types: the one which would provide some form of pension fund or annuity for old and disabled nurses, or for those in need of partial aid; the other which would provide improved and enlarged opportunities for the scientific education of nurses, and thus bring it up to a standard which will compare with that of other professions. Our interest as nurses would lie in the latter plan, as a logical extension of the system which Miss Nightingale set in motion, in founding the first training school in St. Thomas's Hospital. All the world has benefited by that school and that system, every hospital and almost every home, and it seems to us quite likely that contributions might come from nurses and others in all quarters of the globe for such an institute, school, or college as would serve to educate nurses better than the hospital alone is able to do on account of the increasing demands which the community is making of them, demands for public service beyond that in hospital or home, and for work not only in the care of the sick, but in the prevention of disease and protection of health.

Such educational work might be carried on in architecturally beautiful and appropriate buildings in which might be enshrined some at least of those historical records and mementos of Miss Nightingale and her work which are to nurses ineffably precious; and similar records and mementos perhaps should be preserved of others who have rendered distinguished services in nursing. Here perhaps for the first time in history might be placed a suitably equipped library for nurses. It is hard to check the imagination in picturing such a foundation, and the impetus and inspiration it would give to a body of workers and students whose contributions, both actual and potential, to national welfare are of value which can hardly be estimated.

We can think of committees at work in the various European countries and in America and Canada, where the name of Florence Nightingale has been held in veneration for two generations, receiving the contributions, large or small, which thousands of nurses would undoubtedly be glad to give according to their means, and no contribution would be too small to be welcomed. Through

our nursing organizations there is now, happily, a way of reaching individual nurses, and we presume that Miss Goodrich, the president of the American Federation of Nurses, would gladly consent to act as honorary chairman of a committee formed to enable American nurses to co-operate with those in England who are striving to find the best way of perpetuating a great name and life. Every living nurse is Florence Nightingale's debtor, and should eagerly grasp the means of acknowledging that debt in a way which opens up larger opportunities for future nurses.

M. A. NUTTING.

#### THE INTERSTATE SECRETARY IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR EDITOR: The nurses of New Jersey have enjoyed the privilege of hearing Miss Isabel McIsaac at a mass meeting held in Newark, January 21, and we wish to join with the other states that have enjoyed the same privilege in expressing our appreciation of our interstate secretary, who spoke to us in such an interesting and instructive manner on subjects of so great importance to the New Jersey nurses.

Miss McIsaac spoke to the pupil nurses at an evening meeting and impressed all with the importance of duties devolving upon each "to keep our profession upon a high plane of efficiency and to help one another."

ELIZABETH HIGBID,

Secretary New Jersey State Nurses' Association.

#### THE INTERSTATE SECRETARY IN WASHINGTON

DEAR EDITOR: If every superintendent of nurses realized the importance of the pupil nurse becoming familiar with organization work while in school,—by every class having its organization according to its needs, so that when they finished they would become a member of their *alumnæ* without a question, and be ready for the county, state, and national associations and able to take their place in each with ability, and when they are taken step by step through school interested in organization work,—state registration would mean something to them, but until the superintendent does her duty for the pupil nurse in this line, we will need the interstate secretary at least once a year. I am sure more good will come from a yearly visit than could possibly come with less frequent visits. It would be hard to tell how much benefit we derived from this first visit, for every few days we hear from some one who was stimulated by Miss McIsaac's talk and made to realize her responsibility more than she had. She did so much for us all, put us straight where it was needed, and made many things clear which were not before, and we realize more how much of a part each individual nurse takes in making up the whole. We also feel no one else could have done it quite so well as Miss McIsaac.

The question of how to reach the isolated section was brought to us while Miss McIsaac was here by a small association that needed her help so much, but could not stand the expense. I have thought much about it since and it would seem that it might be to the advantage of all concerned for the interstate secretary to have money for her expenses before starting out, and at the end of a visit in a state let the state association pay all, and each county association pay into the state association treasury according to its membership or means or what the state officers would decide was its share.

H.